

REMARKS

The present application is a divisional of pending Application No. 10/068,514, filed February 5, 2002. The claims are 22-45, with claim 22 being independent. Support for the present claims is found throughout the specification and originally filed claims, including page 1; page 2, paragraphs 1-9; page 6, paragraphs 3-8; and page 8, paragraphs 1-3. No new matter is added.

The present claims are directed to a pharmaceutical composition comprising 1 to 8 mg of a thiazolidinedione compound, 5-[4-[2-(N-methyl-N-(2-pyridyl)amino)ethoxy]benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione (hereinafter "Compound (I)", in a pharmaceutically acceptable form.

For the avoidance of doubt, Applicants note that, as set forth in the specification, Compound (I) may exist in one of several tautomeric forms, all of which are encompassed by the term "Compound (I)," as individual tautomeric forms or as mixtures thereof.

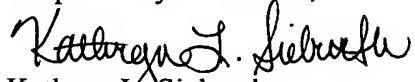
Furthermore, Compound (I) contains a chiral atom, and therefore can exist in up to two stereoisomeric forms, and the term "Compound (I)" encompasses all of these isomeric forms, whether as individual isomers or as mixtures of isomers, including racemates. See the specification at page 2, paragraphs 10 and 11. Accordingly, when reference is made to "Compound (I)", or to "5-[4-[2-(N-methyl-N-(2-pyridyl)amino)ethoxy]benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione", or to "said compound", all tautomeric and isomeric forms of the compound are encompassed.

Additionally for the avoidance of doubt, as set forth in the specification, when reference is made to scalar amounts, including mg amounts and % weight amounts, of "Compound (I) in a pharmaceutically acceptable form" (or as in the claims: "said compound in a pharmaceutically acceptable form"), the scalar amount referred to is made in respect of 5-[4-[2-(N-methyl-N-(2-pyridyl)amino)ethoxy]benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione per se: for example, 2 mg of Compound (I), or 5-[4-[2-(N-methyl-N-(2-pyridyl)amino)ethoxy]benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione, in the form of the maleate salt is that amount of maleate salt which contains 2 mg of 5-[4-[2-(N-methyl-N-(2-pyridyl)amino)ethoxy]benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione (not: 2 mg of 5-[4-[2-(N-methyl-N-(2-pyridyl)amino)ethoxy]benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione maleate salt). See the specification, page 3, paragraph 5.

Predecessor Appln. No.: 10/068,514
Predecessor Filing Date: February 5, 2002

Favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the present application are respectfully requested. If it would facilitate examination of the application, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number provided below.

Respectfully submitted,



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